

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A data management system (100) for creating a virtual personalized content information television channel for an end-user to automatically play out comprised of a plurality of concatenated content information segments, the concatenated content segments being automatically played out in a substantially continuous manner in contiguous time slots, each segment being selected from one of a plurality of content providing resources wherein the selection of each content segment is strictly based on one of an explicit and implicit user-defined selection criteria on the basis of a criterion independent of a respective the content providing resource of respective ones of the segments.

2. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, wherein the respective resource comprises a respective TV channel explicitly defined user selection criteria is user preferred content sourced from at least one conventional (non-virtual) television channel.

3. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, wherein one of said plurality of content providing resources is comprising a recording device for time-shifting the play-out of at least a specific one of the segments so as to fit into a concatenation of the segments.

4. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, for creating multiple virtual personalized content information channels.

5. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, wherein at least one resource comprises pre-recorded content information.

6. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, comprising a generator for providing an overview of the concatenated segments scheduled play out over ~~for~~ the virtual personalized channel.

7. (Currently Amended) The system (100) of claim 1, having a-at least one user interface for enabling the end-user to control a compiling of the segments in the concatenation.

8 -14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program comprising computer readable code for creating a virtual personalized content information television channel for an end-user to automatically play out comprised of a plurality of concatenated content information segments, the concatenated content segments being automatically played out in a substantially continuous manner in contiguous time slots, each segment being selected from one of a plurality of content providing resources wherein the selection of each content segment is strictly based on one of an explicit and implicit user-defined selection criteria on the basis of a criterion independent of a respective the content providing resource of respective ones of the segments ~~software application for being installed on a home network for control of creating a personalized content information channel for an end user by enabling to automatically play out a plurality of concatenated content information segments selected on the basis of a criterion independent of a respective resource of respective ones of the segments.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A customer data base created from respective user profiles obtained for creating a virtual personalized content information television channel for an end-user to automatically play out comprised of a plurality of concatenated content information segments, the concatenated content segments being automatically played out in a substantially continuous manner in contiguous time slots, each segment being selected from one of a plurality of content providing resources wherein the selection of each content segment is strictly based on one of an explicit and implicit user-

defined selection criteria on the basis of a criterion independent of a respective the
content providing resource of respective ones of the segments ~~creating respective~~
~~personalized content information channels for respective end users by enabling to~~
~~automatically play out a plurality of concatenated content information segments selected~~
~~on the basis of a criterion independent of a particular resource of particular ones of the~~
~~segments.~~

17. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein the explicitly defined user criteria is an explicit selection of user preferred content sourced from at least one conventional audio channel.

18. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein the explicitly defined user criteria is an explicit selection of user preferred content sourced from at least one of a display monitor and a loudspeaker system.

19. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein the implicitly defined user criteria is a user's viewing profile.

20. (New) The system (100) of claim 1, comprising:
 a data processing unit (102) configured for selecting each of said plurality of concatenated content segments;
 a display (104) coupled to said data processing unit (102);
 first storage means (122) for storing a currently valid electronic program

guide (EPG);

second storage means (124) for storing a user's viewing profile;

third storage means (112) for storing pre-recorded content under control of said EPG;

means for accessing said plurality of content providing resources; and

means for creating said personalized content channel based on a combination of said explicit and implicit user-defined selection criteria, independent of the content providing resources.

21. (New) The system (100) of Claim 20, wherein said second storage means (124) is a remote server.

22. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein said automatic play out comprises means for playing said plurality of concatenated content segments in prescribed time slots over said personalized content channel without user assisted switching between said plurality of content providing resources.

23. (New) The system (100) of Claim 20, further comprising a graphical user interface (GUI) for enabling said user to control the compilation of said plurality of concatenated content segments in said prescribed time slots for play out over said virtual personalized channel.

24. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein one of said plurality of content providing resources is an external home network (118).

25. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein one of said plurality of content providing resources is the Internet.

26. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein said user profile defines at least one of:

- (i) user preferences with regard to genre or types of content
- (ii) a history of user interaction with content sourced from at least one of said plurality of content providing sources;
- (iii) said time slots where said user wishes to view content over said virtual personalized channel; and
- (iv) priorities assigned to particular content.

27. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, wherein said system (100) further comprises:

means for recording said content from one of said content providing resources in real-time; and

means for tagging said recorded content with associated EPG meta-data semantically describing said recorded content.

28. (New) The system (100) of Claim 1, further comprising means for interrupting said automatic play out of said plurality of concatenated content segments over said personalized content channel by one of manual and automatic means.

29. (New) A method for creating a personalized television channel comprised of a plurality of concatenated content segments, the method comprising the acts of:

individually selecting each of said plurality of concatenated content segments from one of a plurality of content providing resources based on one of an explicit and implicit user-defined selection criteria independent of the content providing resource; and

concatenating the individually selected content segments to create said virtual personalized channel. .

30. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the explicitly defined user selection criteria is user preferred content sourced from at least one conventional television channel.

31. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the explicitly defined user selection criteria is user preferred content sourced from pre-recorded content.

32. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the implicitly defined user selection criteria is a user profile.

33. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein said act of concatenation further comprises said user interfacing with a GUI interface to control a compilation of the content segments to create said virtual personalized channel.

34. (New) The method of Claim 29, further comprising providing said user with a display of an overview of the selected segments to be concatenated to create said virtual personalized channel.